JANUARY 18, 2010 VOLUME 104, NUMBER 11

WARTBURG TRUMPET

The Jesus Experiment
Students learn lessons taught by Jesus
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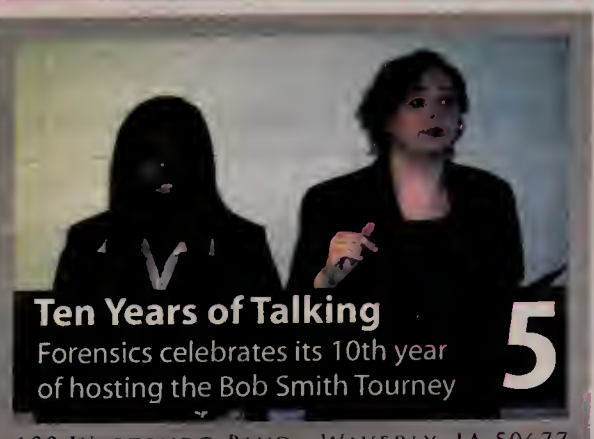

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Fitch Ratings System downgrades Wartburg

MAC SLAVIN *EDITOR-IN-CHIEF*

Wartburg College has been downgraded from a 'BB' rating to a 'BBB-' rating by the Fitch Ratings System, and has been given a "negative outlook," according to a report issued Jan. 8.

According to the Fitch Rating's Web site, Wartburg's grade of 'BBB-' is an "investment grade," a category which indicates a "relatively low to moderate credit risk."

According to the report the "negative outlook" is because the college doesn't have the ability to raise revenue at the same rate as its increasing interest and principle.

"Without stabilization of operating margins to at least break even and the gradual restoration of available funds closer to historical levels, additional negative rating action is likely," the release said.

President Darrel Colson said Wartburg expected negative margins.

"Over time (the increase in depreciation and interest expense) will decrease, which combined with anticipated increases in revenues, will produce positive operating margins as defined by Fitch," he said.

Saul Shapiro, director of communication and marketing, said, "Wartburg anticipated the increased depreciation expense based on the new construction on campus that has occurred during the past decade."

-17.3%
operating margin in 2009

-11.6%
operating margin in 2008

$50 MILLION
operating exspenses in 2009

While the college anticipated depreciation, they didn't anticipate the decline in the overall economy, Shapiro said.

Even though Wartburg's admission level is stable, the Fitch release said Wartburg's ability to keep increasing tuition and fees to help the college's financial deficits is limited.

According to the release, Wartburg's balance sheet, a measurement of available funds, had declined $14 million at the end of 2009.

"These balance sheet resources cover total debt and operating expenses for fiscal 2009 by a weak 16.5 percent and 28 percent, respectively," the release said.

Fitch did acknowledge that other colleges are experiencing similar declines, but "Wartburg's losses are exacerbated by the college's weak operating profile."

Shapiro agreed that many colleges are experiencing problems, but Wartburg has taken "proactive measures" to help maintain an operating budget that is "fine," although he didn't specify what was being done.

"We believe fiscal year 2008-09 created the 'perfect storm' and that if the markets had not declined so significantly, our rating would have been analyzed differently," Colson said.

Contact Mac Slavin at Mac.Slavin@wartburg.edu

Water damages Vogel Library during break

MARIBEL LOPEZ *STAFF WRITER*

One week before classes resumed, Vogel Library staff returned to campus to find wet carpet, a dripping computer carrel and 815 non-salvageable books.

While the library was closed over break, a pipe exploded in a heater on the third floor of the northeast end of the building and caused $18,000 worth of damage.

Information Literacy Librarian Kari Weaver said they are still continuing to check the books to see if anything has been missed.

"It's already a significant number. It was actually more than we initially thought we had lost," she said. "And so the cost for repair and replacement may continue to grow as we check everything."

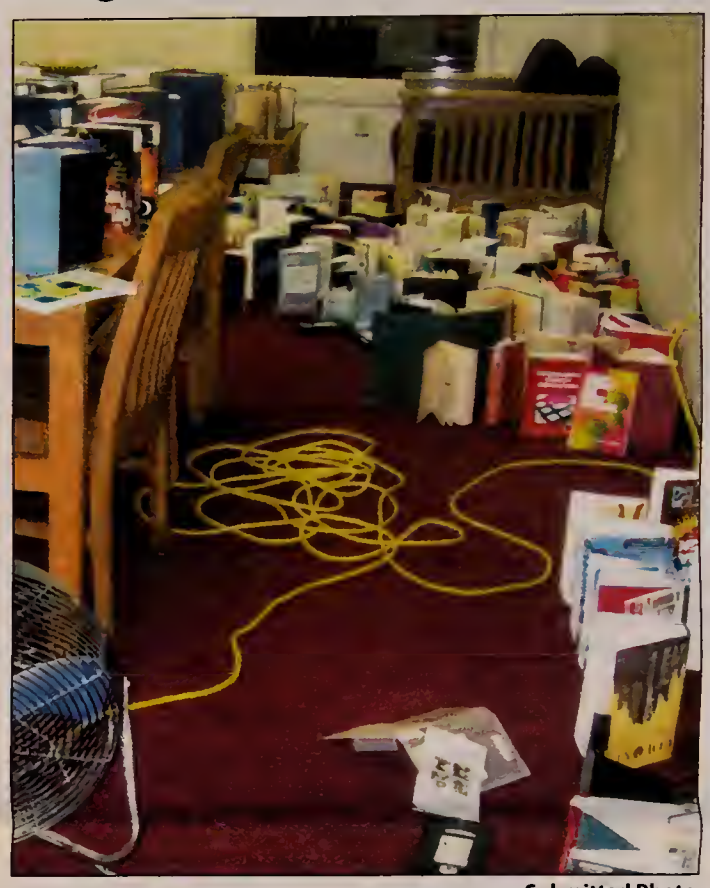
Temperatures dropped to record extremes and students on the third floor complained of that particular area being colder than usual. A combination of the extreme temperatures and a lack of body heat in the building may have triggered the pipe burst regardless of the regular maintenance checks that were being done.

"There was no clear indication that such a disaster would occur," Weaver said.

The water dripped from the third floor all the way to the first floor, hitting a computer carrel along the way, but Weaver said luckily all the computers were off so only two need to be replaced and they have already been ordered.

The water that made it to the first floor damaged the majority of the books it touched.

"Quite a number of the books became wet underneath because the water moved along the shelving unit," said Weaver. "Upon close inspection, going book by book, we found many more as the days continued."



Submitted Photo

Hundreds of library books were set out to dry after a pipe exploded in a heater on the third floor of the library over break.

Weaver said while some books were salvageable through fan-drying, if a book is water damaged at its spine, mildew growth is possible and if it is reshelved, the mildew could spread and damage even more books.

A large portion of the damaged books were in the 300 section of the library, destroying a significant number of journalism and Islamic religion books.

The library has insurance coverage for situations such as this and will be compensated for the books that need to be replaced and that are not outdated.

"As unfortunate as this is, it is an opportunity to review the books that were there, replace what we absolutely need and focus a little attention and budget on the areas that were severely impacted to make sure we have enough to support all of our curriculum needs," said Weaver.

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Wartburg professor volunteered in Haiti, worries about its future

Submitted Photo

Nancy and Paul Magnall (left) and Ken and Beth Burrow (right), all of Waverly dug trenches for a spetic system in August when they went on a mission trip.

ELLEN KURT *ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR*

Just five months ago, Paul Magnall, associate professor of business administration and accounting at Wartburg, and his wife, Nancy, were digging trenches to make a septic system for an orphanage in Jacmel, Haiti.

Today, he wonders how Jacmel and the orphanage are going to go on after a 7.0 earthquake devastated the area.

"I have no idea how they are going to get supplies in," Magnall said. "There is only one road in and that road is blocked either with landslides or something."

The epicenter of the earthquake was in between Jacmel and Port-au-Prince. It's a three and a half hour drive or a 35 minute plane ride to get from one to the other, but Jacmel currently has no airport due to the earthquake.

They usually get everything trucked in from Port au Prince, which is suffering as well.

"The only way I could see things getting there is they are going to have to get a helicopter and it is going to have to get up over the mountains and back down again," Magnall said.

The organization the Magnalls worked with in Haiti was the Hands and Feet Project.

Magnall said he checked the Web site for the organization,

See MAGNALL CONCERNED **page 2**

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NEWS

Wartburg alumnus passes away

MAC SLAVIN *EDITOR-IN-CHIEF*

Nico Kadimoke, a 2008 Wartburg graduate and football team member, died Wednesday after losing his battle with lupus.

Over the summer, Kadimoke was diagnosed with lupus, an autoimmune disease that can affect any part of the body.

A candlelight service and visitation was held Saturday night. Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon in Iowa City.

Kadimoke graduated with an International Business degree and a French minor.

Online condolences may be sent to his family at www.gayandciha.com.

The Iowa City Press Citizen wrote a feature story about Kadimoke's battle. Check the Circuit for the link.

Contact Mac Slavin at
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Amanda Gahler/*TRUMPET*

Eric Isaacs, Blake Haugen and Caitlin Uhlenhopp discuss the social effects of allowing wind turbines to be present within the city limits. The research was part of the engineering capstone at Wartburg.

Magnall concerned about children from summer trip

FROM PAGE 1

which was updated using an emergency generator at the orphanage had. He found that none of the buildings at the orphanage had collapsed.

The buildings had only minor cracks because they are supported by pillars which are made of concrete and re-enforcing rods. Because of the cracks, the children have to sleep outside.

"Everybody is kind of gun shy because that is where a lot of people get hurt, they're in the building when the next tremor comes and then it collapses on them," Magnall said. "So they do only minimal amounts of things in there and as of tonight, they are not sleeping inside yet."

> *"My major concern is I don't know how they are going to deal with this."*
>
> *- Paul Magnall*

The Magnall's sponsor a child in Jacmel and through contact on the Web site and through e-mail they have verified that their child survived the earthquake.

"My major concern is I don't know how they are going to deal with this, and the first day is not too bad, but if you don't have water and you don't have food, what are you going to do?" Magnall said.

"Where the orphanage is at, they have a supply of foodstuff and so forth, but at some point that has to be restocked just like anybody else."

Conatct Ellen Kurt at
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Students present wind turbine research to the Planning and Zoning Comission

DANIELLE KRAMER *STAFF WRITER*

Four Wartburg engineering students presented their research last month on public policy regarding the placement of small wind turbines on residential land in Waverly.

Blake Haugen, Eric Isaacs, Caitlin Uhlenhopp and Mike Hopper were chosen to present research to the city's Planning and Zoning Commission, which has been looking into the effects of small-scale, residential wind turbines for more than six months.

The engineering capstone required students to research various social effects and standards that would need to go into effect if the residential wind turbines, which are currently prohibited within city limits, were permitted.

At the end of the capstone class, four students were chosen to give an applicable presentation to the commission.

"Really this was a community research project," said Dr. Lake Lambert, capstone instructor and P and Z member. "The goal was to focus on and assess the social effects of engineering."

The research consisted of assessing important details such as noise regulations, setback distance from property lines, height discrepancies, the "shadow flicker" from the rotating blades, ice shedding in the winter and aesthetics, said Lambert.

"The Planning and Zoning Commission had already gone through three or four drafts of regulations regarding the turbines," said Haugen. "We looked at those drafts and based our regulations on what we felt was necessary."

The students prepared two separate presentations for the project, one to the P and Z commission and another to the Waverly community.

"The P and Z presentation consisted of fact-based information such as cost and benefits and the structural regulations involved.

The community presentation was more to inform residents of the social ramifications of the wind turbines and the overall effect on energy conservation," said Haugen.

Lambert said the overall goal for the class was to help the engineering students apply their knowledge in a real-life scenario.

"This was more of a service-learning project that was appropriate for engineers," said Lambert.

"It was important for them to look not only at the physical regulations involved, but also the social and ethical issues involved with the project."

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Wartburg scholarship day attendance high

RACHEL BIEDERMANN *STAFF WRITER*

Due to students registering later and scheduling reservation for the last two scholarship days, it is likely that Wartburg will meet or exceed their totals for scholarship days from last year's total, Todd Coleman Assistant Vice President for Admissions, said.

A high turn out was expected for the Presidential and Regents scholarship day at Wartburg this past weekend, as 500 perspective students, their parents and volunteers will exceed the limit and add to the waitlist, Coleman said.

"We traditionally offer around 700 scholarships on average and have averaged about 50 percent acceptance[for Regent and Presidential scholars]," Coleman said.

The selection of Presidential and Regent scholars based in part on the student's ACT, GPA and class rank. To increase their chances of getting a scholarship students complete an essay and are interviewed by current students, faculty and staff, Edith Waldstein, Vice President for Enrollment Management, said.

This year has been no different from last as far as total turnout for scholarship days.

"In comparing this exact date to last year we stand right now at 499 total students registered for scholarship days compared to 508 last year at the same date," Coleman said.

Wartburg has been offering four scholarship days for the past five years, Waldstein said.

In general, scholarships range from $10,000 to full tuition, but it is up to the perspective student if they want to raise their chances at getting a higher scholarship.

"I think students are inclined these days to wait until the last opportunity to take the first opportunity," Coleman said.

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Tour Week Service Trip Applications Are Avaliable!!!

Applications and trip descriptions are avaliable online at www.wartburg.edu/servicetrips

Rolling Application process- first come first serve. Only 70 spots are available.

Deadline: February 12th
Deposit: $150

For more information please contact Amy Tucker or servicetrips@wartburg.edu

OPINION & EDITORIAL

TRUMPET EDITORIAL: Stabilize debt and enrollment to improve rating outlook

Wartburg has some serious planning to do involving a new capital campaign and maintaining stable enrollment in the wake of the financial declines in the economy and investment markets.

Fitch Ratings has downgraded Wartburg's revenue bonds to BBB-; the Rating Outlook is now considered "negative."

According to New York City and Press, the new rating "reflects a substantially weakened credit profile characterized by volatile operating margins" that is "due to financial market turbulence."

This turbulence is from the 2008-09 fiscal year of declining markets, or what Wartburg President Darrel Colson said was the "perfect storm."

The market values declined by almost one-third of their value, a seemingly huge percentage. Yet both Fitch and Colson reported this kind of decline was seen by other higher-education institutions.

The problem this negative outlook poses is not whether Wartburg can pay its bills, as Colson said the "rating adjustment by Fitch has no direct financial implication" for the school, but if it can continue to pay for the debt it has accumulated due to operating performance and building growth.

Because Wartburg is a tuition-driven institution, stable enrollment is key to stabilizing revenue—an area the administration should particularly focus on in the next few years.

Enrollment isn't the only focus; a brilliant, successful capital campaign to increase revenue could be the greatest step to alleviate Wartburg's financial burdens.

Wartburg is already on the ball: Fitch reported "the college is proactively taking steps to strengthen operating performance for fiscal 2010" including cutting expenses and reducing retirement contributions.

While Wartburg builds its revenue back up, however, perhaps it can also plan a shelter for when the next "perfect storm" hits.

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND: Time for Americans to look beyond 'black' or 'white'

BENSON AMOLLO
GUEST COLUMNIST

How should a typical American speak? And does the tone or the wordings of such speech or even pronunciations, suggest how American one is?

Or rather, how many languages or dialects do Americans speak? And how do we differentiate the black dialects from white or otherwise?

Good questions and we may not just look at Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid for good answers. We don't have to ask any more of him other than accept the justification in remarks he made in 2008 during the presidential campaign that President Obama—then a White House candidate—was not so black: "a light-skinned African-American with no Negro-dialect unless he wanted to have one."

And those remarks came close to the anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

So, without making any accusations, Americans, more so students and scholars, must give honor to the legendary civil rights advocate by owning up to race overtones and discussing it.

For instance, there is nothing really wrong with being a light-skinned black or having an exclusive accent. And there is nothing wrong in suggesting that one does. What is wrong, however, is the mute denial that Americans still look at each other from glossed lenses that can only read skin color.

This perhaps explains the reason why President Obama was quick to accept Reid's apology—he knows like most Americans that race is one of those raw nerves that almost everyone wants to carefully tread on lest you're perceived racist, and Americans "hate" racism.

But, as the future of America, students must open honest debates on this ugly scar on the book of a country that claims greatness. We should, as King would have wished, be able to discard what blurs our vision beyond black or white pigments that we see.

For example, can I still be a good American professor when my student feels that I could do better save for my skin color or when I award grades based on what I see of a human being and not their talents?

The walls that divide us and limit our progress are built by our blind-shots at individuals when we refuse to see beyond the skin pigment; when we refuse to accept a Godly and honest smile and are quick to say, "That's a typical white smile" or rather, "Oh, yeah, I knew it had to be him. Didn't you know blacks are loud?"

Contact Benson Amollo at Benson.Amollo@wartburg.edu

Choice Words | WARTBURG SOUNDS OFF

"Please stop complaining about the weather. It's Iowa. It snows here."
- Happy Camper

"Why do all the couples around here look like siblings?"
- I Don't Date My Own Kind

"Dear Dining Services: I only have 20 minutes to eat in between classes, and I spend 18 of those attempting to masticate the large pieces of lettuce you have at the salad bar (Den and Mensa). Is it actually for a salad, or do you want me to use it as an area rug?"
- Let Ess

"They say waiting is a virtue. Try telling that to someone who drank three cups of coffee over the course of the morning."
- Nutwad

"Hey Wartburg Kollege: not everything with the 'kuh' sound is spelled with a k."
- Kut It Out

"Scholarship day lunches in the Den are the epitome of unsustainability."
- Paper Or Plastic? Neither

"If you don't eat, you get skinny. Did you know that?"
- THINking Diets Suck

"Girl in society and medicine class: I know you have been talking about me in class discussion. I hear everything."
- Omnipotent Creeper

"I don't know if you've been told, but I'm a folk song."
- No-no-no-no-no-November

"It's second semester and people still don't understand what side of the door to go through in the skywalks."
- Try The Right Side, Please

"Dear Lohe one: settle down on the cologne. You have put on too much when your entire hallway smells like you do."
- Sick Of The Stench

"Hey professor: there's a lot of rumors going around about you. Clean up your act."
- I'd Still Be Your Number Three

"Why, oh why, is that clown in the library now holding a knife?"
- Kreeped Out By The Knife

"Attention men on campus: a little chivalry never killed anyone. Try holding the door open once in awhile instead of letting it slam in our faces. You may be pleasantly surprised at the reaction."
- D

"Professors in the K-Dit: don't just leave your cups and trash on the tables. You're old enough to know how to clean up after yourselves."
- Do The Dirty Dishes

"I feel like I am going to get hit by a car when I walk from the parking lot to "The W." Maybe I'll let it happen...Daddy loves a good lawsuit."
- Missing The Crossing Guard

THE Circuit WARTBURG COLLEGE
www.wartburgcircuit.org

Choice Words is dedicated to the (truthful?) expression of the students, faculty, staff and alumni of Wartburg College. Want to share your thoughts, observations or wisdom? Serious or delirious, it's time that you're heard! The Trumpet reserves the right to censor inappropriate and libelous comments.

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND: Planning your life is no way to live

ASHLEY EVANS *OP/ED EDITOR*

I'm sick of people telling me what to do, or more frequently, what NOT to do.

Don't spend your money. Don't drink so much coffee. Don't go tanning. Stay in school. Eat less meat. Eat more meat. Floss, go to bed early, eat your vegetables. Don't do anything stupid.

Why? Why do I follow the ten commandments of universal parental advice? Yes, it's kept me safe, but it has also made me restless.

I have these plans—go to graduate school, teach college students how to write brilliantly, abolish tenure—just as every other senior around me also has their future diagramed.

We work so heartily toward the future, but do we remember that every day has the potential to be the epiphany we've been waiting for? When will we realize two plus two is actually a fork in the road?

As graduation approaches, I finally understand that time is rentlessly romping forward and is gobbling up the opportunities to turn my life into one hell of an adventure.

I want to be a rebel without a cause.

I want to play hot lava on the third floor of the library during finals week and "forget" to move the furniture back where I found it. I want to live poor in a big city and have a scary landlord and ugly wallpaper. I want to write love letters on index cards and drop them on the subway, hide them in boutique shoe boxes and leave them in overdue library books.

We are young, but we won't be forever. Let's spend money on frivolous items like Red Sox sneakers and walkie talkies. Let's drink gratuitous amounts of caffeine and stay up until four in the morning filming terrible rewrites of Dickens' novels, laughing with our friends. Let's get tan, so tan, and not worry about cancer—a monster that claims lives anyway, even if you obey the "rules."

See what I'm doing? I am living, in my own, completely justified way.

Life isn't about listening to what others tell you—it's doing what you want, what makes you happy. Worry less about what you can't control. Let your future self deal with the problems that might arise.

People are waiting to hear our stories, so forget regrets and fear. Screw plan A; go make fiction of yourselves. Play pranks on your cubicle neighbor. Share all of your secrets with a stranger. Tell the truth, or lie so violently that you make it the truth.

Live in every way you were taught not to: dangerously, frantically, unexpectedly. Just make sure you're living.

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Letters to the editor are subject to editing without changing the meaning of the letter. Authors will not be notified of changes prior to publishing. Letters must be signed, fewer than 250 words, submitted by 9 p.m. Thursday and related to current issues in the Wartburg community. Letters may be sent to the communication arts office or e-mailed to trumpet@wartburg.edu. Please type "Letter to the Editor" as the subject line. Publication is at the discretion of the editor.

News

Waverly native sits his way to a third couch potato title

ELLEN KURT *ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR*

In 2008, when Waverly-native Jeff Miller's girlfriend decided to sign him up for the Ultimate Couch Potato contest at Chicago's ESPN Zone, all he wanted was to win a big screen television.

The 26-year-old real estate business owner never expected that three years later, he would have his third consecutive Ultimate Couch Potato title and a Guinness world record.

"The second place competitor [fell asleep at] 4:21 a.m. At that point, I was still going strong thinking who wants to pick me up at 4:21 in the morning," Miller said. "I could have taken a cab, but I figure, I might as well keep going."

Miller, a Waverly-Shell Rock High School graduate, decided to stand up at 72 hours on Monday, Jan. 4 around 10 a.m.

The contest began at 10 a.m. on Jan. 1. The object of the competition was to see who could stay up the longest without falling asleep.

Miller was also able to watch ESPN throughout the time he was competing. He said his strategy for staying up was to get into all of the football games that were on. He said he would just pick a team, whether he liked the team or not, and just root for them.

All of this TV watching also caused some psychological problems.

"It's an interesting feeling, throughout the competition, ...you have hallucinations, like you don't really know where you are, very disorienting," Miller said.

Miller was able to use the bathroom every eight hours and got a five minute break to stand up every hour.

He would do push ups and sit-ups during his five minute breaks and run stairs on his extended bathroom breaks in order to keep himself awake.

George and Colleen Miller, Jeff's father and mother and owners of Miller True Value in Waverly, said they are proud of their son and said that breaking a world record has been one of their son's goals since he was young.

"We were really excited for him. He said in high school, one day I'm going to break one of those records. I think it was kind of a life dream of a kid to want to do that," Colleen Miller said.

After the competition was over, Miller said he took about a four hour nap. He never had a binge sleep to recover, just seven hours of sleep each of the following nights.

"He's always been our night owl. He loves to stay up late all the time," Colleen said. "He can control everything with five or six hours of sleep and be on top of things."

Jeff won a trophy as well as a recliner, a $1,000 gift card toward the purchase of a TV, money for one year of his cable/satellite bills, and $1,000 in ESPN Zone credit.

Miller said he does not know if he will do the contest for a fourth year.

Contact Ellen Kurt at Ellen.Kurt@wartburg.edu

Waverly native Jeff Miller won his third consecutive Ultimate Couch Potato title on Jan. 4 after sitting for three days straight.

Abbie Baker/*TRUMPET*

Kyle Jaeger discusses a bible passage that was just read with his small group members during "The Jesus Experiment." Every three weeks, the groups get together and are given a new practice to try.

Program encourages students to live like Jesus

HANNAH COX *STAFF WRITER*

"The Jesus Experiment" is a new discipleship program that gives students the opportunity to meet new people and experience what it would be like if Jesus were living their lives.

Rev. Brian Beckstrom had the initial idea for this program and with the help of Rev. Ramona Bouzard and students "The Jesus Experiment" was created.

"It was definitely a team effort and I think maybe the Holy Spirit might have had a little something to do with this too," Beckstrom said.

"The Jesus Experiment" is not an ordinary Bible study. It is more about the experience and finding the connection between daily life and faith, Beckstrom said. It is a nondenominational organization.

With "The Jesus Experiment," students are put into groups of three with people they want to get to know better. The small groups meet once a week for an hour.

Every three weeks the large group meets. There are varying times to the large group meetings. During the group meetings, members discuss the Jesus-like practice they are doing for the week.

Every twenty-one days a new practice is assigned. The first one is to find five minutes a day to read "The Sermon on the Plain."

Beckstrom said it takes 21 days for someone to form a habit. He said he hopes these challenges help students learn how to live out their faith in their daily lives and grow from doing things they might not be used to.

The reason for the name "The Jesus Experiment" was to cause a bit of intrigue. Beckstrom said he wanted to give the organization a name that made students want to find out more.

Sondra Roerish and Emily Barclay both attended the first meeting of "The Jesus Experiment." Roerish saw the Facebook page and was drawn in.

"It sounded like a really cool opportunity to learn more about myself and to try and live out my life in a more Christian manner," Roerish said.

Barclay also saw the Facebook page and was equally intrigued by the idea. She attended the first meeting and said she was happy she decided to go.

"It sounds really interesting, and I'm really excited about getting started with it," Barclay said.

As of now there are about sixty students participating in the project. New members are welcome to join every three weeks when the new challenge is assigned.

If interested, contact Pastor Brian Beckstrom or visit their Facebook page.

"I have a feeling Jesus had a pretty good sense of humor. I can tell that in scripture so we have fun too," Beckstrom said.

Contact Hannah Cox at Hannah.Cox@wartburg.edu

Students furthering education in slow economy

ZIRRA BANU *STAFF WRITER*

Wartburg records show that more and more students are looking to graduate school with the economy and job market in poor condition.

This January witnessed a record-breaking high in graduate school application rates around the country, according to the New York Times.

Wartburg hasn't failed to keep up with this trend, as students in different majors scurry to secure their seat on the next level of education.

A recent Wartburg graduate Romeo Djoumessi said, "Going to school after graduation helps students think and plan for the long term. I plan on going to seminary to further my education."

The New York Times reports an all-time high in the number of people who took the LSAT and GRE in 2009, based on information provided by the Educational Testing Services who administers these tests.

Wartburg students still have hope for finding jobs in the wake of the global recession.

"It's too much of a gamble to study something for years only to realize that it's not the career path for you," Rilind Latifi said. "I do have a general idea, but I'm not sure right now about the specific area of study I'm going to pursue."

Larifi said real-world experience, prior to graduate school, will allow him to apply what he learned and give him a better idea of what he is interested in.

"Colleges are hearing from employers that the value of relevant work experience is more critical than ever," Jo Dorrance, internship coordinator at the Center for Community Engagement, said.

She said students look to internship programs for valuable opportunities that will give them an edge in the job market.

The rate of applicants interested in internship and job opportunities has risen at Wartburg, Dorrance said.

"Wartburg seniors understand the value of the 'whole student'—students with excellent out-of-the-classroom knowledge, work experience, and leadership skills."

Dorrance encourages students to take advantage of opportunities such as Wartburg West, the Washington Center or Orange Connection.

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KNIGHTLIFE

Forensics celebrates 10-year anniversary

Pier has coached the team from the beginning

TEALA KRAPFL *STAFF WRITER*

It's Thursday afternoon and Emily Johnson has shut herself in a room, alone. But this is with good reason. Johnson is practicing a speech for an upcoming Forensics team competition.

Johnson, the team's vice president, competed in speech competitions in high school and sees performing as a rewarding experience.

"It's a really good place to be yourself and let loose," she said. "It's a way to explore the different things you can do as a person."

The Forensics team is celebrating its 10-year anniversary this year.

Forensics competes in about six speech competitions each semester and in the national competition in the spring. Most performances are individual, such as reading poetry or prose, while some are performed in pairs.

"It feels a little bit surreal," head coach Penni Pier said.

"I can't believe it's been that many years. We have a lot of great memories."

Pier has been coaching the team since the beginning.

To commemorate its 10th anniversary, former Forensics team members will travel to campus from across the country to judge Sunday's Bob Smith Invitational, the second of a two-day speech swing tournament.

The first day of competition is Saturday at the University of Northern Iowa.

Johnson is looking forward to sharing stories and memories with former team members.

"It's really exciting," Johnson said. "It will be fun to put faces with the people we've heard so much about."

JAN 24 BOB SMITH INVITATIONAL

When: Sunday at 8 a.m.
Where: Wartburg campus
Who: Forensics teams

Pier is also looking forward to the return of Forensics veterans.

"We share a lot of history," she said.

Forensics' history at Wartburg reaches back as far as the '50s, when Bob Smith coached a debate team. Over the years different speech groups have come and gone, but Forensics was not officially named under its nationally recognized title until 2000.

Pier cited the time and commitment it takes to be a part of the team.

"It takes a special person to want to do this," Pier said.

Pier hopes that students will take into account the rewarding aspects of performing speech.

"It's a great place to learn about yourself," she said.

She also said it's a way to network and connect with people who have similar interests.

"The community is so inclusive and welcoming," Pier said.

She calls the team a "college family."

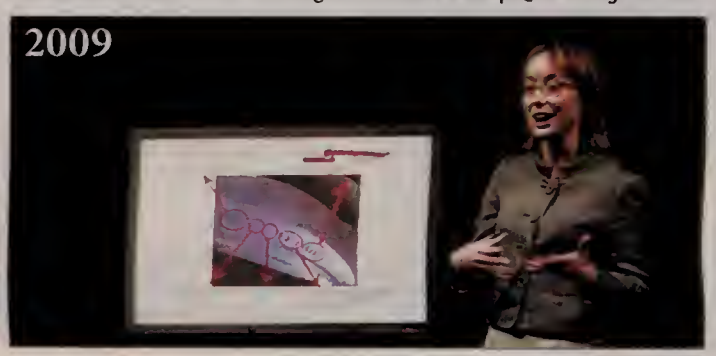
"It's a great way to create a support group on campus," Johnson said.

Those interested in watching Forensics performances may attend the Bob Smith Invitational on campus Sunday beginning at 8 a.m.

Contact Teala Krapfl at Teala.Krapfl@wartburg.edu

Amanda Gahler/*TRUMPET*

Current members of the Forensics team look forward to hearing memories and stories from former team members who will return to campus Sunday for the Bob Smith Invitational.



Ruggles applies college lessons to teaching career

EMILY SCHMITT *KNIGHTLIFE EDITOR*

A recent graduate is combining his passion for education and technology into a unique teaching position at a school "empowered by diversity and committed to academic excellence and artistic expression," according to its mission.

Randon Ruggles, class of 2009, teaches high school English and serves as the media specialist and coordinates the 1-to-1 Laptop Program at the FAIR (Fine Arts Interdisciplinary Resource) School downtown in Minneapolis. Five hundred students, kindergarten through 12th grade, attend the fine arts magnet school.

"I'm really excited that we're pushing the envelope of what education looks like," he said.

Randon Ruggles

His responsibilities include coordinating the program that provides each student a laptop to enhance classroom learning.

When in the classroom, he utilizes an interactive, electronic whiteboard—or SMART board—during his lessons.

This semester, Ruggles is requiring his students to maintain blogs. Ruggles is an experienced blogger himself and began blogging while student teaching at Wartburg West.

"When you go student teach, all student teachers are required to keep a journal," he said. "I wanted to keep my family and friends at home updated."

Clear View Education listed his blog, "Fifty-nine Minutes," among the "100 Best Blogs for Teachers of the Future."

"There have been people from all over the world that have found it really helpful," he said.

Although he is honored that his reflections have benefited others, Ruggles said the blog has never been about other people.

"Without reflections, there's very little growth in your profession," he said.

The fine arts are another focus of the school. Students select two courses from a list that includes painting, graphic design, theatre, dance, photography and movie making. Ruggles incorporates art elements into his English classes.

He and the other teachers encourage students to learn through hands-on interaction with their surroundings.

Parents give permission for their children to be taken off school grounds at any time for external learning opportunities in the city.

"When my principal looked at my resume, one of the things he looked at was the places I've been," he said.

Ruggles said his May Term experiences at Wartburg impressed the principal and fit well with the school's commitment to applying classroom experiences to the real world.

"Wartburg has applicable learning with real-world examples," he said.

When Ruggles began searching for a teaching position last spring, his passion for technology led him to only apply to urban schools with an online application. FAIR School Downtown met these requirements.

"It was exciting to find a position that really gave you the reigns to mold a program," he said.

His toughest challenge is keeping a boundary between work and time off.

"I know it's really difficult as a first year teacher to spend time away from the classroom," he said.

> *"It was exciting to find a position that really gave you the reigns to mold a program."*
>
> *–Randon Ruggles*

Although he knows he can't spend all of his time on his job, Ruggles is thankful for the opportunity to teach young people.

"I'm surprised about the fact that it's a whole lot of fun to have your own classroom," he said. "I'm so excited every single day to get to know my students."

To read his blog, go to http://fiftynineminutes.blogspot.com.

Contact Emily Schmitt at Emily.Schmitt@wartburg.edu

CURRENT HAPPENINGS IN STUDENT SENATE

- **Six** new senators were appointed at our most recent meeting.
- Student Senate approved **guidelines** for the Readership Fund.
- Apply for the **$500** Senate Leadership Scholarship! Applications available at www.wartburg.edu/senate under the Award Nominations page.
- Interested in becoming a **Senator?** Pick up an application outside of the Hub!
- Check out Senate's **Blog** for updates: www.wartburg.edu/senate

Brought to you by Student Senate

SPORTS

Knights open season on good note at Wartburg Relays

ANDREW NOSTVICK *SPORTS EDITOR*

The Wartburg Indoor Track and Field team opened their season at home Friday by winning 19 combined events in the Wartburg Relays.

The women's team won 10 individual titles, while the men won nine against Simpson College and North Iowa Area Community College (NIACC).

"Anytime you can finish a meet on top like that, it makes a significance in the outcome of what our goals are," head coach Marcus Newsom said.

Faith Burt earned an NCAA Div. III provisional qualifier in the women's 60-meter dash when she won with a time of 7.84. Jenny Kordick and Brittany Thomas earned second and third place finishes.

"I felt it was a pretty good race," Burt said. "To come out to actually see what I can do from training this year, it was actually a pretty good race. I felt really comfortable."

Other wins in the running events for the women's team included the 4x400-meter relay, the distance medley relay and the 4x800-meter relay.

In the field events, Hannah Baker took home the title in the long jump with a five meter finish. Kendra Kregel finished in second for the event.

"We've done what we can do so far in this season. We've got a lot of work ahead of us," Hannah Baker said.

Emily Cory won the shot put with 11.24 meters. Amanda Conrad and Racheal Andresen took third and fourth for the event.

Conrad did take first place in the women's weight throw with a mark of 12.68 meters.

In the women's high jump, Amber Axon took home first place with a jump of 1.62 meters.

Alicia Ford took second place for the Knights.

Ashley Benda took first place for the women in the pole vault with a jump of 2.15 meters.

For the men's team, Russell Harris took home first place in the 60-meter hurdles, while Marquis Stephens took first in the 60-meter dash.

Wartburg's men also won the 4x400-meter relay, taking it by one-tenth second over Simpson.

Amanda Gahler/*TRUMPET*

Amber Axon clears 1.62 meters, just missing out on a Div. III provisional qualifier, to earn first place honors in the women's high jump on Friday during the Wartburg Relays held at Hoover Fieldhouse.

They would also take first in the 4x800-meter relay, the sprint medley relay, the 4x1600-meter relay and the distance medley relay.

In the men's field events, Mike Gurius took home first place in the weight throw with 14.97 meters. Cody Iverson took second for the Knights.

Ryan Putz won the high jump with a jump of 1.73 meters.

The teams will head to Ames this weekend to compete in the ISU Open.

Contact Andrew Nostvick at Andrew.Nostvick@wartburg.edu

Men move to third in IIAC

FROM PAGE 8

entire second half.

Wartburg went on the road Saturday, Jan. 9, to face Dubuque and fell 74-68.

Wartburg's 15-point victory over Buena Vista Saturday improved their overall record to 10-5 and 4-2 in the IIAC.

The Knights travel to Mount Vernon Monday to face Cornell College with tipoff set for 8 p.m.

"Cornell has some great size. They are off to a great start and are doing well at home. They are the team that knocked us out of being in the NCAA tournament a year ago. We have a chance to tie them in the rankings if we can get a win there," Peth said.

Contact Luke Ullestad at Luke.Ullestad@wartburg.edu

IIAC Men's Basketball Standings

Teams	Conference	Overall
Central	6-1	13-3
Cornell	5-1	11-4
Wartburg	4-2	10-5
Buena Vista	4-2	8-7
Dubuque	3-3	10-5
Loras	3-3	8-7
Luther	1-5	7-7
Simpson	1-5	4-11
Coe	1-6	3-13

IIAC Wrestling Standings

Teams	Conference	Overall
Wartburg	4-0	12-1
Coe	3-0	12-2
Dubuque	2-0	4-3
Cornell	1-1	9-9
Buena Vista	1-3	1-7
Luther	0-1	6-5
Central	0-2	5-6
Loras	0-2	5-9
Simpson	0-2	1-7

WARTBURG SPORTS BRIEFS

Wartburg to host section of 2010 IIAC Duals

Warburg will host a section of the 2010 IIAC Dual this Saturday at Buzz Levick Arena.

Wartburg is one of two schools hosting a section, with Cornell being the other school.

The Knights will host Coe, Simpson and Dubuque.

Harrington named athlete of the week

Wartburg's Samantha Harrington was named Female Athlete of the Week by the Iowa Conference, last Monday.

Harrington was also announced to the D3Hoops.com Team of the Week for the week of Jan. 4-10.

The junior received the honors after the Knights defeated Simpson on Jan. 6 for the first time since 2004. Harrington had 20 points in that game.

Harrington leads the women's basketball team in scoring average with 13.1 points per game.

Steffens named female scholar athlete of the year

Former Wartburg track and field and volleyball athlete Kelsey Steffens was named the 08-09 female scholar athlete of the year by the Iowa Conference, last month.

Steffens graduated Magna Cum Laude from Wartburg last May with a 3.84 GPA. She majored in elementary education with mathematics and middle school endorsements.

Knights down rival Norse

FROM PAGE 8

Connor Drew (125 lbs.) and Keelan Moore (157 lbs.) each took third place

On Friday, the Knights defeated the Luther Norse, 38-3.

"I thought we wrestled well. We had a lot of new guys in the line up and they really stepped up and Luther is a decent team and thought we were pretty dominant tonight. That was what I wanted to see," Miller said.

Camacho and Tommy Mirocha (133 lbs.) each won by major decisions, 11-3 and 13-0, respectively to start off the dual.

"Gilberto is a little guy but he is really good and he's got a lot of fire. Mirocha, the next match, really got us going. Gave some young guys the chance to wrestle at home in front of everybody and I thought they were really impressive tonight," Miller said.

Kalen Lenz (141 lbs.), Mike Sandy (157 lbs.), Ben Scott (174) and Azinger all won by decisions.

Banks won by fall over Dale Lewis in 2:46.

Dave Wyper (Hwt.) won by fall over Allyn Plattner in 42 seconds to finish off the dual.

"Holy cow...I was really happy for David Wyper and I was glad some of the fans got to see him wrestle tonight and it was fun to asaid.

The Knights will continue their season Saturday as they host the conference duals, which is set to start at 10 a.m. when they face Simpson in Levick Arena.

"We are going to work hard this week and we have a big weekend ahead of us. We just have to keep focused and keep building. We have been doing that since the beginning of the year," Miller said.

Contact Eric Thiele at Eric.Thiele@wartburg.edu

Previous decade leaves many memories

FROM PAGE 8

a new documentary on HBO titled "Daytona 24/7."

Tiger Woods was the top golfer in the early part of the decade, winning major golf titles left and right. By the end of the decade, his "transgressions" were making the front page of the New York Post.

The '00s saw the rise of poker. Just turn on ESPN Classic at any moment of the day and you're likely to find a World Series of Poker marathon on to compete with the "Law and Order" (any of them) marathons.

We saw Michael Jordan come back for a third time to a struggling Washington Wizards. Jordan spent the latter part of the decade as part owner of the Charlotte Bobcats (not the Hornets).

Michael Phelps made swimming cool again with his dominating performances in two summer Olympic games. Who knows what will happen in London.

Hitter and fan-friendly baseball stadiums popped up in the previous decade. Football stadiums did too, including Jerry Jones' gigantic screen in Dallas.

The previous decade saw the Boston Red Sox finally win a world series (two in fact).

The Arizona Cardinals went to a Super Bowl and hell didn't freeze over.

The '00s were a great decade for sports. We have a lot to look forward to just in 2010 alone.

The Winter Olympics in Vancouver are on the horizon.

The World Cup in South Africa will happen this summer as well, which will feature the U.S. against England.

Time will tell if the '10s will be as good as the previous decade.

Contact Andrew Nostvick at Andrew.Nostvick@wartburg.edu

SPORTS

Women defeat BV to move into third in the IIAC standings

Amanda Gahler/*TRUMPET*

Leslie Wilson drives to the basket against Buena Vista on Saturday. Wilson had seven points in the Knights victory.

LUKE ULLESTAD
ASSISSTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The Knights defeated the Beavers from Buena Vista on Saturday, 85-80, in Buzz Levick Arena.

Five Knights finished in double digits.

Katie Zittergruen led the way with 18 points and pulled down 10 rebounds.

Abi Weidemann posted 16 points, connecting on 12-for-13 from the foul line.

"Any team that has five players in double figures is going to be tough to beat," Abbey Hempen said.

Hempen ended with 13 points and. Samantha Harrington added 11 and Hollee Silvey finished with 10 points.

"Offensively, anytime you can have balance it makes it harder for our opponent," head coach Bob Amsberry said.

The first half was back and forth with seven lead changes.

Both teams shot the ball well in the first half with Wartburg shooting 47.4 percent and Buena Vista shooting 51.9 percent, from the field.

Wartburg had a 10 point advantage going into halftime, 46-36.

The Knights never lost their lead in the second half, with the closest margin being three points at the 13:28 mark, 57-54.

Wartburg's largest lead was 13 with just under four minutes to go in the game.

A three point basket by s Jocelyn Kock at the final second of the game was not enough for the Beavers, as the Knights held on to an 85-80 victory.

"Going into the Buena Vista game we knew we would have to come out with a lot of intensity and play great defense to get the win and we were able to do that on Saturday," Zittergruen said.

The victory moves Wartburg to 10-5 overall and 4-2 in the IIAC.

They currently sit in third in the conference behind Coe.

"We are still in a position where we can control our own destiny and if we can take care of our business we can still win the league without getting any help," Amsberry said.

Prior to last Wednesday night, the Knights had compiled an eight-game winning streak.

Following Saturday's victory over Buena Vista, the Knights have gone 9-1 in the past 10 games.

Zittergruen said the team has been on a great run, but that it's important for the team not to get complacent with where they are.

"Every game in the conference will be a challenge, so we have to be ready to compete each time we step on the court," she said.

Wartburg was defeated by Coe 85-53 on Wednesday, Jan. 13.

Three Knights posted double figures in points.

Hempen led with 12, Silvey posted 11 and Zittergruen added 10 points.

"After the loss at Coe, we had to get back to playing competitive team basketball and we did that against Buena Vista," Zittergruen said.

Wartburg defeated the University of Dubuque, 68-52, in Dubuque Saturday, Jan. 9.

Harrington scored 22 points in the Knights victory. Abby Hempen scored

. The Knights return to action Wednesday night at 6 p.m. when they host rival Luther College.

Contact Luke Ullestad at
Luke.Ullestad@wartburg.edu

IIAC Women's Basketball Standings

Teams	Conference	Overall
Simpson	5-1	12-3
Coe	5-2	10-6
Wartburg	4-2	10-5
Buena Vista	3-3	9-6
Dubuque	3-3	9-6
Loras	3-3	8-7
Cornell	2-4	7-8
Luther	2-4	7-8
Central	1-6	2-14

Track and Field team returns from trip to Barbados

ANDREW NOSTVICK *SPORTS EDITOR*

Members of the Wartburg track and field team traveled to Barbados over the holiday break.

Twenty-nine track students, and head coach Marcus Newsom, went to the Caribbean island as part of a special topics class the first week of January.

"I wanted to go back. If I could have lost my passport on purpose, I would have," Russell Harris said.

The team was able to go as part of a rule, established by the NCAA that allows teams to travel out of the United States to compete every three years.

The team worked out with and competed against club teams and the junior national team at their national stadium.

Part of the appeal of Barbados is the warm climate and is ideal for training.

Newsom said it was perfect timing in terms of the cold weather in Iowa.

"I guess I only felt bad for a minute," Newsom said, referring to the weather

However, team members did more than run. There was plenty to learn about in Barbados.

"We trained, we actually had a few lectures. One of the lectures was we had an opportunity to meet the first female soldiers of the Barbados army. So that was pretty awesome. Her talk was incredible," head coach Marcus Newsom said.

Along with a tour of the country, the team visited a home for children with special needs. The visit left an impression on Newsom.

"To desert a child in Barbados, the penalty was like 25 Barbados dollars," he said. "When the director shared that with us, that really hit me pretty hard because it just was amazing to me. I still think about it."

Newsom said it was good for the team to visit with the children.

It was Newsom's second trip to Barbados. He went in 2007 with the team as well.

"It was a new experience for everyone other than me," Newsom said. "For me, I was probably a bit more relaxed."

This was Harris' first trip outside the U.S. and his second time on an airplane.

"I learned not to take life for granted," Harris said. "We stopped by the children's home and saw a lot of people and a lot of kids that were less fortunate than I was as a kid."

Newsom said the team has started to build relationships with the nation.

The team is working to develop goals that include sending clothes and picture books to children's shelters.

Newsom also wants to donate items to some of the track and field teams in Barbados.

"We want to continue to build the relationship. I think the third time will be a more special trip," Newsom said.

Newsom said the team returned to the U.S. with heightened excitement.

"Even though it's cold here, you still return with a level of excitement because not only are you returning to an environment you're familiar with, you're getting back to family and friends," Newsom said.

Contact Andrew Nostvick at
Andrew.Nostvick@wartburg.edu

BARBADOS FACT BOX

Capital:
Bridgetown

Population:
284,589 (2009 estimate)

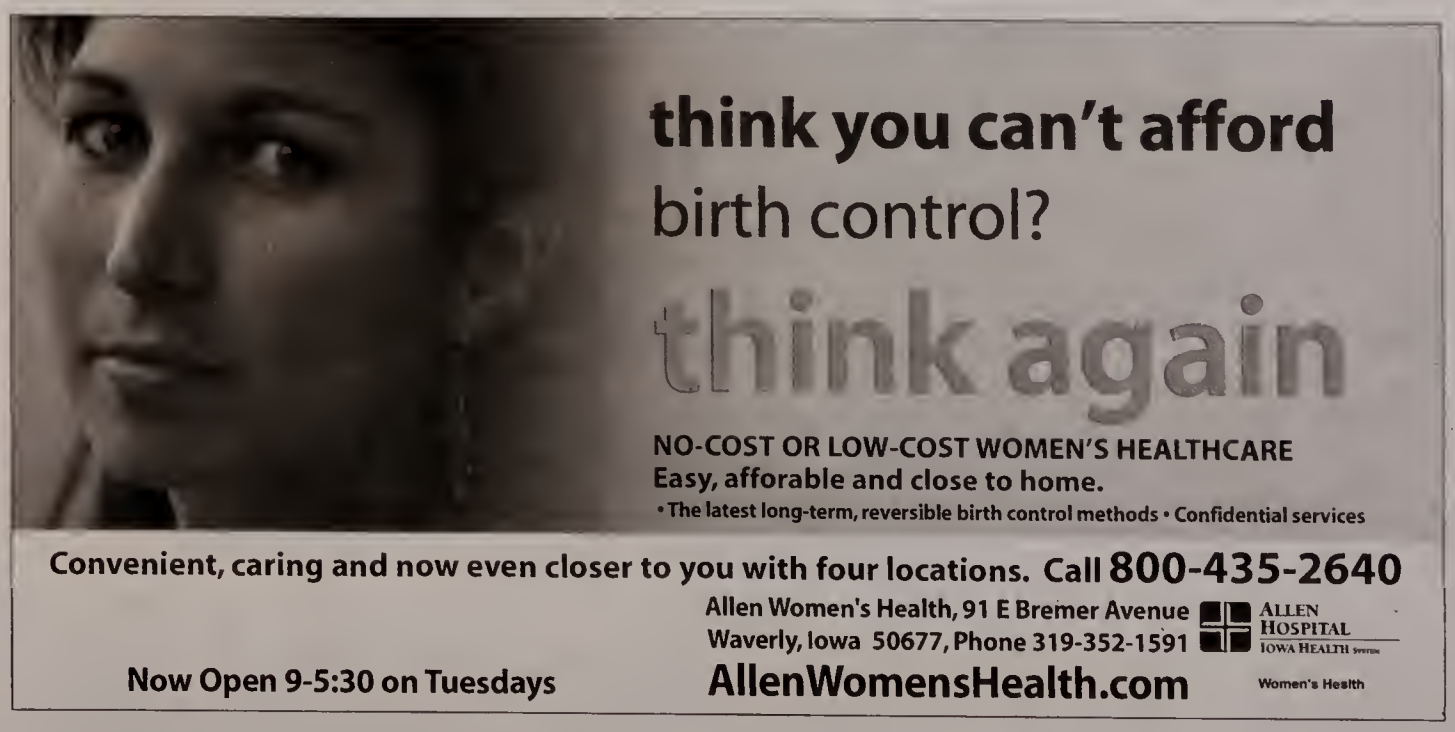
Median Age:
35.8 years

Area:
430 sq kilometers
(2 1/2 times the size of Washington, D.C.)

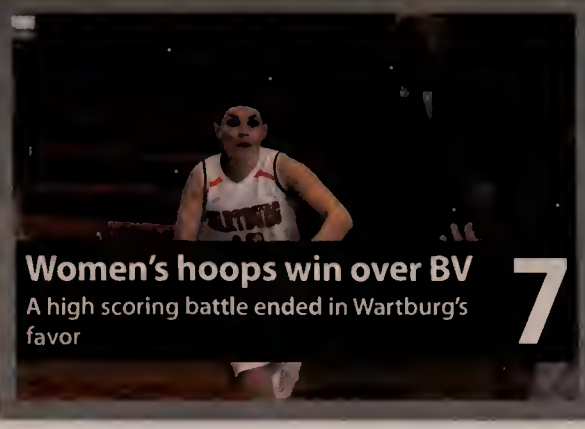
Natural Resources:
Petroleum, Fish, Natural Gas

Top Exports:
Sugar and Molasses

From the CIA World Fact Book



TRUMPET SPORTS



Women's hoops win over BV
A high scoring battle ended in Wartburg's favor **7**

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Wednesday	Men's Basketball vs. Luther - 8 p.m.
	Women's Basketball vs. Luther- 6 p.m.
Friday	Men's and Women's Indoor Track @ ISU Open
Saturday	Wrestling - Iowa Conference Duals10 a.m.

*GO TO **WWW.GO-KNIGHTS.NET** FOR SCORE UPDATES*

Wrestling caps weekend with dual wins

ERIC THIELE *ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR*

The No. 2-ranked Wartburg wrestling team defeated Buena Vista in an Iowa Conference dual on Saturday, 44-3, in Storm Lake to extend their IIAC dual win streak to 138.

"We used a lot of different kids and got pretty much the same results, so that was gratifying," head coach Jim Miller said.

Gilberto Camacho (125 lbs.) started things off with a 7-3 victory. Byron Tate (197 lbs.) also defeated his opponent by a 7-2 decision.

"Camacho is really wrestling hard and did really well in both matches," Miller said.

Matt Kelly (135 lbs.) continued that momentum with a 19-3 technical fall in 5:23.

Photo Courtesy of Sports Informaton

Wartburg's Gilberto Camacho battles Jayson Swanson in Wartburg's wrestling dual against Luther on Friday night. Wartburg's win over Luther College is the Knights' 137th straight against the Iowa Conference.

Chris Sandy (141 lbs.), Jacob Groth (149 lbs.), Mike Sandy (157 lbs.), and John Helgerson (Hwt.) each won by fall.

"It was very dominant performance," Miller said.

Carrington Banks (165 lbs.) defeated his Buena Vista opponent 24-9.

Dylan Azinger (174 lbs.) won his match, this time via a 14-5 major decision.

While some wrestlers were in Storm Lake on Saturday, some headed to Pella for the Central Invitational.

Mike Kremer (133 lbs.) won his weight class when he defeated Ryan Timmerman from St. Olaf on a 16-12 decision.

On his way to the championship match, Kremer defeated fellow Knight Nathan Vaske (133 lbs.) in the semifinals. Vaske took third place in the weight class.

Jesse Froehner (149 lbs.) and Charles Tims (149 lbs.) were co-champions in their weight class while Colton Wagner (149 lbs.) took third.

"We had some kids do well. In 149 we had co-champs. It went well," Miller said.

See KNIGHTS DOWN **page 6**

Men's basketball win two straight in IIAC

LUKE ULLESTAD
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Wartburg's 73-58 victory over Buena Vista on Saturday was the fourth win in five games for the Knights.

Three Knights posted double figures in points. Cole Danielson led the Knights with 19 points. Kelly McCarville recorded 16 points and Jordan Sathoff finished with ten points.

Four lead changes took place in the first half. However, the Beavers had the advantage going into the half 29-24.

The second half was a different story as the Knights left the locker room to take an early two-point lead with just under three minutes into the half, 31-29. They would hold on to that lead in the second half.

"We played with a lot more confidence in the second half than what we did in the first," head coach Dick Peth said. "There was a little bit of self-doubt in the first half offensively."

Another area of great improvement was from the three-point line where the Knights shot 80 percent.

"We made a minor adjustment on offense. Defensively, we came out very, very aggressive with fifteen steals in the game. For us to be that aggressive on both ends of the floor was really good to see at this point in the season," Peth said.

The Knights' defense held the Beavers to 29 points again in the second half, whereas Wartburg put up 49 points in the half.

The Knights defeated Coe, 61-50, last Wednesday in Cedar Rapids.

Sathoff led all scorers with 18 points on 8-for-9 shooting. Danielson had 16 points against Coe. He also had nine rebounds for the game.

"We took Coe out of their offensive rhythm and our guys did a good job of forcing them to shoot over the top of our defense and fortunately they didn't shoot the ball well that game," Peth said.

Wartburg led at halftime 29-22 and maintained their lead the

See MEN MOVE **page 6**

Amanda Gahler/*TRUMPET*

Jarrett Williams goes up for a lay-upr against Buena Vista on Saturday.

FROM THE BULLPEN

Saying farewell to '00

ANDREW NOSTVICK *SPORTS EDITOR*

Hooray, it's finally 2010. Or is it 20-10? This is going to bug me for the next decade.

But we can't move forward without at least looking back at the previous decade in sports. The '00s are now officially in the past. Thank goodness the "Milli" dance never caught on.

It was a decade that saw teams dominate in respective sports. The NFL's New England Patriots won three Super Bowls.

The Los Angeles Lakers won four NBA titles. In fact, one of them was without Shaquille O'Neal, who won a title away from LA by taking it with the Miami Heat.

The previous decade saw Pete Carroll become one of the premier head coaches in college football.

With the new decade, Carroll finds himself returning to the NFL, taking on the head coaching role of the Seattle Seahawks.

The football world also saw Brett Favre retire, then come back with the Jets, then retire again and come back with the Vikings.

The previous decade saw many athletes fesss up to steroid use, and it also saw many athletes outed by the Mitchell Report.

Mark McGwire kicked off this new decade with his admission of steroid use. But it was five years earlier that he sat in front of a congressional committee and said he didn't want to talk about the past.

We saw the sport of Mixed Martial Arts grow at such a rapid pace that it threatens to overtake boxing as the most popular combat sport (I'm not counting professional wrestling in this topic).

While NASCAR lost a legend in Dale Earnhardt in 2001, it saw another grow in Jimmie Johnson, who won four straight series titles and is the feature of

See PREVIOUS DECADE **page 6**